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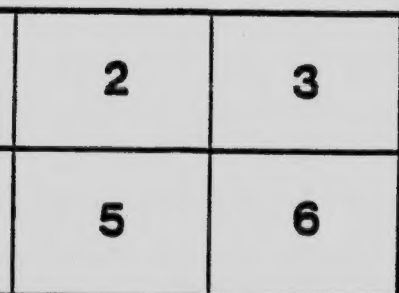
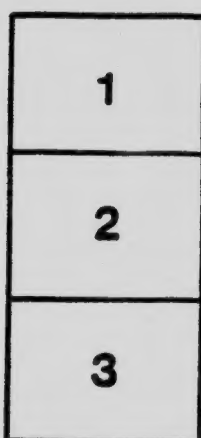
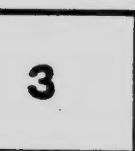
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1905

EXTRACTS

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FROM

THE LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF

Mr. J. P. Whitney, M.P.P.,

LEADER OF THE ONTARIO OPPOSITION,

Showing his Persistent Opposition to Useful and
Progressive Legislative Measures from his
Entrance into Political Life in 1888
to the present time, proving
him to be

A FOSSILIZED TORY.

During the twelve years Mr. Whitney has been a member of the Ontario Legislature, he has put himself on record as a non-progressive and reactionary public man. His vote has ever been given to thwart progressive legislation, to retard the scope of departmental administration and in other ways to set back the hands of the clock rather than to move forward with the times.

The following extracts from his legislative record will prove the truth of the above statements. Many of the best legislative features of the Liberal Government of Ontario during the past twelve years were opposed by Mr. Whitney; many of the reforms that public opinion has cordially sanctioned were opposed by him. His record in this respect shows how little fitted he would be to control the interests of this great Province.

His Legislative Record Regarding Agricultural and Kindred Matters.

Opposed the Appointment of a Minister of Agriculture.

During the session of 1888 a Government Bill was brought in "respecting the Department of Agriculture and other industries." It was moved by Mr. Meredith, seconded by Mr. Creighton, that "while this House concurs in the proposition to give greater attention by the Executive Government to the agricultural interests of

the Province than has hitherto been done, it is of opinion that that end can be attained without incurring the expense of adding another member to the Executive Council, and the inevitable additional expense which will be consequent on such addition, and that therefore the said bill be not now read the third time, but be forthwith referred back to the Committee of the Whole House, with instructions to amend the same by striking out the third section thereof." (Page 136, Journals.)

The section of the bill which it was proposed to strike out reads as follows:—"The Act respecting the Executive Council is further amended so far as the same restricts the Executive Council to six members."

Had Mr. Meredith's resolution prevailed there could not have been a Minister of Agriculture.

Mr. Whitney voted for this amendment and by doing so opposed the appointment of a Minister of Agriculture. By this vote he clearly put himself on record in opposition to one of the most important and most beneficial moves the Government ever made.

Opposed to the Agricultural College.

Mr. Whitney's attitude towards the Guelph Agricultural College has ever been one of blind and unreasonable opposition, though the value of the establishment has been again and again proved by the farming community. On page 196 of the Journals of 1893 it is recorded that Mr. Marter moved, seconded by Mr. Kerns, "that the resolution respecting grant (in aid of agriculture) be not now concurred in, but be forthwith referred back to a Committee of the Whole House, with instructions to strike out the proposed vote of \$1,500 for the salary of an assistant in the Department of Natural History, Librarian, etc., for the Ontario Agricultural College." Mr. Whitney voted for this motion, and in so doing evidenced his antagonism to this most useful and well conducted institution.

Opposed the Algoma Pioneer Farm and Western Dairy School and Fruit Spraying Experiments.

The Journals of the House of 1899 (page 264) show that Mr. Carnegie moved, seconded by Mr. Little, "that the resolution (respecting grants in aid of agriculture) be not now concurred in, but be forthwith referred back to the Committee of Supply with instructions to reduce the item by \$8,100, being \$2,500 voted for instructions in fruit spraying, \$1,000 Pioneer Dairy Farm and \$2,600 Western Dairy School, and \$2,000 reduction in vote for printing." Here again Mr. Whitney proved himself to be an obstructionist in much that pertains to the development of our agricultural interests.

Opposed Grant to Poultry Association

Page 152 of Journals, 1897, records the following motion: "Mr. Carnegie moved, seconded by Mr. Kidd, that the resolution (respecting grants in aid of agriculture) be not now concurred in, but be forthwith referred back to the Committee of Supply with instructions to reduce the item by \$2,000 for the farm proper of the Agricultural College and \$1,400 for the Poultry Association." Mr. Whitney's name is among the supporters of this motion, which is indicative of his attitude and that of his party toward agricultural interests.

Opposed the Appointment of a Provincial Road Commissioner.

True to his old-fashioned and non-progressive ideas, Mr. Whitney, during the session of 1896, voted for the following resolution, which was moved by Mr. Meacham and seconded by Mr. Magwood: "that all the [unclear] of the motion after the word 'that' be struck out and the [unclear] substituted—'this House views with alarm the tendency of the Government to create new offices and is of the opinion that the office of Provincial Highway Commissioner with a salary of \$1,500, exclusive of expenses, is unnecessary, and places an additional and useless burden on the Province.'" (See p. 185, Journals.)

The creation of a new office of Provincial Road Commissioner has been more than justified by the subsequent experience, and the Government has received more praise for their advanced policy in this than almost any other one act. And yet, as has been said, Mr. Whitney did all in his power to block progress in this direction.

Opposed Appointment of Clerk of Forestry.

Almost every new departure by the Government, which the country has again and again approved, was voted against by Mr. Whitney. On April 30th, 1894, Mr. Monk moved, seconded by Mr. Preston, "that the resolution respecting grants (in aid of agriculture) be not now concurred in, but be forthwith recommitted to a Committee of the Whole House with instructions to reduce the item by \$2,000, being the salary and disbursements of the Clerk of Forestry, which office was now vacant, and in the opinion of this House should be discontinued." (See page 181, Journals, 1894.)

Mr. Whitney joined with the opposition in voting for this resolution, and yet no branch of Government was more needed or has proved itself more valuable than the Forestry Branch of the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Whitney has never grasped the importance of the great subject of forest preservation and reforestry.

On March 29th, 1899, for the third time Mr. Whitney voted to abolish the office of Clerk of Forestry.

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Voted for the Abolition of the Public Works Department.

As late as the session of 1899 Mr. Whitney voted to do away with the Public Works Department, thus wiping out of existence this important branch of Government, which for 25 years has been under the control of a Catholic Minister of the Crown. On March, 29th, 1899, (p. 249 Journals) a resolution of the Committee of Supply was opposed by an Opposition amendment, which read, "that the resolution be not now concurred in, but be forthwith referred back to the Committee of Supply, with instructions to reduce the item by \$18,750, being the salary and expenses of the Public Works Department."

Voted against the Brockville Asylum.

On April 12th, 1892, (p. 199, Journals) Mr. Whitney voted against a resolution respecting a new Asylum for the Insane for Eastern Ontario, afterwards located at Brockville, although it was soon filled with patients, showing the wisdom of increasing the accommodation for the insane at that time.

Voted to Abolish the European Immigration Agencies.

By reference to page 262 of the Journals of 1899 it will be seen that the Leader of the Opposition supported a Conservative amendment "that the resolution respecting immigration be not now concurred in, but be forthwith referred back to the Committee of Supply with instructions to reduce the item by \$4,825, being immigration vote for agencies in Europe."

Voted against a Plebiscite on the Temperance Question.

On May 2nd, 1893, (p. 98, Journals) a vote was taken on a resolution of the Government to take a plebiscite on the temperance question. Mr. Whitney recorded his vote against this method of ascertaining public opinion on the subject referred to.

Voted against the Victorian Order of Nurses.

The Government brought in a resolution on March 29, 1899, voting \$2,500 for Lady Aberdeen's Victorian Order of Nurses (p. 269, Journals.) Strange to say Mr. Whitney voted against this small vote for such a deserving philanthropy.

Opposed Railway Bill of 18

Notwithstanding the fact that the electors have clearly evinced a wish that the opening up of New Ontario should be facilitated, Mr. Whitney opposed the important Railway Bill of 1899, by personally moving several detailed amendments, although he refrained

from voting on the bill as a whole. It will be remembered that the railway resolutions of 1899 provided for assistance to railways that would tap Moose River on James Bay, and that would bring within reach the Lake Abittibi region and the country lying west of Lake Femiscaming. It also provided for assistance to the Ontario and Rainy River Railway. Mr. Whitney, however, did all in his power to negative this assistance on the part of the Province.

Voted against an Interprovincial Bridge at Ottawa.

Mr. Whitney moved an amendment to the railway bill of 1895 (p. 160, Journals) to strike out a grant of \$50,000 to an Interprovincial Bridge across the Ottawa River at Ottawa.

Opposed to Township Surveys.

Mr. Whitney is on record as voting against the yearly surveys of new townships in Northern Ontario—surveys that were absolutely needed as settlement advanced. On May 26th, 1893, Mr. Clancy moved, seconded by Mr. Miscampbell, "that a resolution (respecting the expense of the Crown Lands Department) be not now concurred in, but be forthwith referred back to a Committee of the Whole House with instructions to strike out the item of \$35,000 proposed to be voted for surveys of townships in new districts." (See p. 197, Journals, 1893)

Voted against Making the Early Closing of Shops Compulsory.

By reference to page 137, Journals of 1888, it will be noticed that on the third reading of the Government Bill "to regulate the closing of shops and hours of labor therein. Mr. Whitney entered his vote against it.

Opposed the Appointment of a Drainage Referee.

During the session of 1891 a Bill was introduced by the Government "respecting disputes under the drainage laws," and providing for the appointment of an expert drainage referee. Mr. Whitney opposed this under an amendment introduced by Mr. Meredith (p. 173, Journals). Mr. Whitney also repeated his vote on March 29th, 1899.

Opposed the Appointment of Superintendent of Neglected Children.

Mr. Whitney opposed the appointment of a Superintendent of Neglected Children—a branch that has fully justified its establishment and existence. Mr. Meredith moved an amendment to the bill "for the prevention of cruelty to and the better protection of children" and Mr. Whitney joined with the Opposition in voting against it (p. 150, Journals).

Voted against the County Council Bill.

The public will recall the excellent and much needed legislation of 1896 to reduce the number of county councillors, thus effecting a great saving in time and expense in this realm of municipal government, besides simplifying the election and procedure. Mr. Whitney moved a six months' hoist of the bill, thus opposing another legislative reform demanded and since sanctioned by the people (p. 166, Journals).

Opposed the Appointment of a Municipal Auditor.

On April 9th, 1897, on a resolution in Committee of Supply to vote \$2,100 for the purpose of a Municipal Auditor's salary and expenses, Mr. Whitney voted against it. The published reports or this officer are the best evidence of the need of such appointment, which has saved municipalities thousands of dollars and effected a much needed reform.

MR. WHITNEY'S OPPOSITION TO EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS.

Voted for the Abolition of the Office of Minister of Education.

Mr. Whitney voted for the abolition of the office of Minister of Education in the following amendment, moved by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Clancy, on April 30th, 1891 (p. 163 Jls.): "That the said bill (consolidating and revising laws respecting the Education Department) be not now read the third time, but that it be resolved that it is expedient to place the Education Department under the control of a non-political head and that the bill be referred back to the Committee of the Whole House with instructions to amend the same by providing for the abolition of the office of Minister of Education after the dissolution of the present House." Mr. Whitney was, therefore, then and is now in favor of an irresponsible oligarchy to control our educational interests, instead of the present system of Governmental responsibility. Again in 1894 (p. 148, Jls.) Mr. Whitney voted for a similar amendment.

Opposed a Grant to the Ontario School of Pedagogy.

A vote was taken in the House on April 30th, 1894 (P. 179, Jls.) to grant a certain sum for the Ontario School of Pedagogy. Mr. Whitney opposed the grant and voted against it.

Opposed a Grant to the London Normal School.

While in Committee of Supply in the House on March 30th, 1899 (p. 287, Jls.), an amendment was supported by Mr. Whitney to do away with a proposed grant of \$22,000 to the new Normal School at London.

THE EXPORT OF SAW-LOGS.

In the Session of 1893, the question of inserting the condition in future sales that timber cut on Crown lands shall be sawn in Canada, was raised in a motion by Mr. Miscampbell, M.P.P. for East Simcoe. The motion was made in Committee of Supply, and so could not be amended:—

“That all the words after ‘That’ be struck out and the following substituted: ‘This House disapproves of the policy of disposing of the timber reserves of the Province without its approval being first obtained, and is of opinion that the right to cut timber upon the present reserves should be sold under such conditions as will ensure the manufacture of the lumber cut therefrom within the Province, and more effectually guard against the unnecessary cutting and destruction of small timber growing in such reserves.’”

It might appear that this was the first move in the matter, but here again the Government were the first to take such a step. In the fall of 1890, the Government had a timber sale and inserted the condition, for the first time, requiring the logs to be sawn in Canada.

Then came the Ontario timber sale of 1892. In the meantime an agreement had been made between the Dominion Government and the United States, under which our trade in sawn lumber had expanded and had become more profitable; should that position be disturbed and the whole question re-opened? The Government, therefore, concluded not to re-open so large a question for such a small and doubtful benefit, and did not insert the condition. The sale was held, and although an increase of 25 per cent. was made in the timber dues, the largest prices ever obtained were paid as bonus, and out of 633 miles sold only 78 miles went to Americans, and from these 78 miles down to this day not one log has been cut for exportation. One Canadian who purchased a four-mile limit has sold five millions of feet for export, and this is the entire quantity which has gone out of territory included in the timber sale of 1892. The Government pursued the wise course on that occasion.

It will be seen that Mr. Miscampbell's motion dealt with two distinct questions. It condemned the sale of timber lands without a previous vote of the Legislature, and it proposed that, in future sales, the condition of manufacture in the Province of Ontario should be inserted. It mixed up two matters which had nothing to do with each other. Fires frequently occur which render prompt sale of the damaged timber necessary, otherwise it goes to waste, as the boring insects get into it. If this motion had passed, such timber could not be sold until the House met and a vote was taken. There were other strong reasons why the discretion should remain with

the Government. The manufacturing condition was to be a narrower one than was ever proposed or thought of before. It was to oblige the timber to be manufactured in the Province, so that Quebec mill-owners, who might buy logs from Ontario limits, would be unable to do so any longer, unless their mills were moved into the Province of Ontario. It was discrimination against the lumbermen of a sister province. Of course, such a motion, which, owing to the time and manner of its introduction, could not be amended, did not commend itself to the House, and so was voted down by a majority of 21.

In 1894 the matter again became an issue, and the policy of the Government up to that point was approved by their return at the general election of that year.

Following this, Congress conceded free lumber for free logs, until the hostile Dingley Bill and its successive protectionism led the Ontario Government to pass the Act of 1897-8, providing for the insertion of the manufacturing conditions in all future licenses, and making the crown timber regulations conform thereto.

It will thus be seen that the Government took the initial steps regarding the manufacture of logs in the country three years before the belated and contradictory motion of the opposition, (and which was then only made for political purposes on the eve of a general election), and have since continued to deal with the important question promptly and effectually as circumstances called for.

IN CONCLUSION.

The latest development was the submission, by consent, of the constitutionality of the Act of 1897-8 to a Trial Court, at the instance of some of the Michigan lumbermen interested. Argument was made before Mr. Justice Street, who gave judgment on Nov. 24, 1899, in favor of the Province on every point in dispute, thus forming another great victory in the courts for Provincial Rights.

It will be seen from the foregoing that Mr. Whitney represents everything that is backward in politics. He has opposed almost everything of any good that has been brought before the House, and has himself proposed almost nothing good, bad or indifferent. He and his followers have seemingly done their best to ensure that the Province shall not travel at a faster pace than their own. Hence, they are naturally in the cold shades of opposition.



